

August 20, 1997

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Dr. Rodney M. Fujita  
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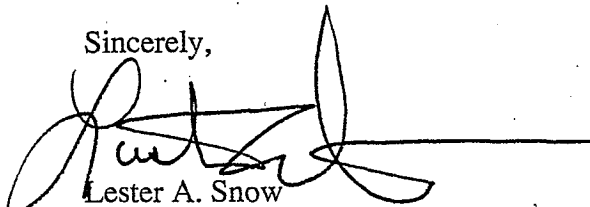
We appreciate your comments and concerns regarding the importance of indicators of ecosystem health. Please be assured that we understand the linkage of indicators to assurances and eventual measurement of success of the restoration program.

We would like to be in a position to allocate more resources to indicators development at this time, but our budget and schedule simply prohibit doing so. The original budget you suggested to support the complete work necessary for the development of indicators was \$600,000, an amount in excess of what we had available. Even your scaled back proposal to complete only task one, exceeded our abilities.

Priorities for our overall program are currently driven by our need to produce a draft programmatic EIR/S by this fall. In order to accomplish that task, we are focusing on those aspects of the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan which have to be in place for impact assessment. Therefore, we are emphasizing the refinement of targets and programmatic actions.

We plan to define our work on indicators later in 1997 and may be able to entertain a proposal from the Environmental Defense Fund at that time. In the meantime, we are working to develop a discussion draft of indicators of ecosystem health that will support future refinement efforts.

Sincerely,



Lester A. Snow  
Executive Director

**CALFED Agencies**

**California**  
The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Water Resources  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board

**Federal**  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service